



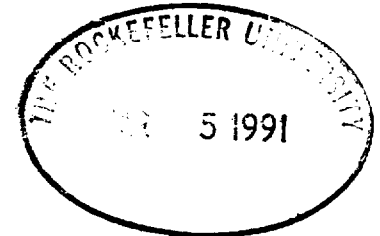
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Public Health Service

Centers for Disease Control  
Atlanta GA 30333

March 1, 1991

Dr. Joshua Lederberg  
University Professor  
The Rockefeller University  
1230 York Avenue  
New York, New York 10021-6399



Dear Dr. Lederberg:

This is just a note on behalf of my colleagues in the Center for Infectious Diseases at the Centers for Disease Control to say that we applaud your leadership in the Institute of Medicine's study of Emerging Microbial Threats and your leadership in putting this subject before the concerned public. We may be biased, but we think this is a very important subject, a subject in need of some attention.

We are proud of our record in dealing with the infectious diseases and etiologic agents of disease in recent years -- after all, primary crucial discoveries and innovative intervention strategies by CID/CDC staff members are at the heart of national and international programs dealing with many infectious diseases/agents:

Marburg & Ebola viruses  
Legionella pneumophila  
Staphylococcus aureus  
(Toxic shock syndrome)  
Reye syndrome  
HIV/AIDS  
HTLV-II in this hemisphere  
Influenza virus  
Group A streptococcus  
Drug-resistant malaria  
Human herpesvirus 6  
Hepatitis C virus  
Hepatitis E virus  
"Hepatitis X" virus

Venezuelan encephalitis virus  
Dengue viruses  
Measles virus  
Rabies virus  
Lassa virus  
SSRNA diarrhea viruses  
E. coli 0157:H7  
(Hemorrhagic colitis and  
Hemolytic uremic syndrome)  
Haemophilus influenzae aegyptius  
(Brazilian purpuric fever)  
Erlichia spp (human erlichiosis)  
Rickettsia spp

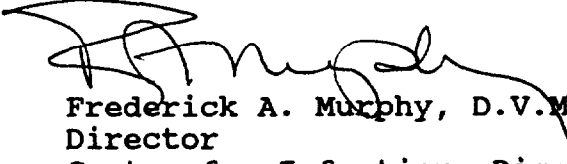
etc.

And there are more to come. Some critics have said that CDC is ill-prepared to deal with the new and emerging threats of today -- it is true that we in the Center for Infectious Diseases are suffering substantial fiscal woes, but we are not destitute and we have not given up a bit of our verve as the torch has been passed to a new generation of infectious disease epidemiologists and laboratory scientists. For example, just look at what my colleagues have done to resolve the question of emergence of HIV in the setting of medical/dental invasive procedures.

All this is by way of saying that we would be pleased to help in any way possible in the Institute of Medicine study you are undertaking -- we can provide many kinds of resources -- you need only call.

Best regards.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'F. Murphy', with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Frederick A. Murphy, D.V.M., Ph.D.  
Director  
Center for Infectious Diseases